Message Text

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62.

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-20 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12 SP-03

CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 DODE-00 PA-04 USIA-15

PRS-01 SS-20 NSC-07 L-03 DRC-01 /148 W ----- 070449

R 101422Z JUL 74 FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA TO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES AMEMBASSY CARACAS INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 3718

UNCLAS BOGOTA 6039

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: ECON AR VE CO

SUBJ: ANTI INFLATIONARY POLICY

- 1. PRES-ELECT ALFONSO LOPEZ MICHELSEN, WHO ASSUMES OFFICE AUGUST 7, HAS PROPOSED TRIPARTITE COMMISSION COMPOSED OF BUSINESS, LABOR AND GOVERNMENT REPS TO ADVISE HIM ON ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL POLICY, PARTICULARLY ON PRICES AND INCOMES POLICY. COLOMBIA EXPERIENCED 23.6 PERCENT COST OF LIVING INCREASE LAST YEAR, AND 14.1 PC INCREASE FIRST HALF 1974. INFLATION WAS ONE OF LOPEZ' MAIN ELECTION THEMES, AND HE HAS ESPECIALLY NOTED THAT WAGE INCREASES FAILED TO KEEP PACE. TRIPARTITE COMMISSION BEING LIKENED TO SYSTEM ESTABLISHED IN ARGENTINA LAST YEAR AS ANTI-INFLATIONARY DEVICE, AND SOME THINK LOPEZ WILL INSTITUTE PRICE AND WAGE POLICY SIMILAR TO THAT IMPOSED BY CAP IN VENEZUELA.
- 2. SINCE BOTH ARGENTINA AND VENEZUELA MAXITHUS BE MODELS FOR COLOMBIA IN THIS RESPECT, WOULD APPRECIATE EMBS BUENOS AIRES AND CARACAS POUCHING COPIES OF ANY REPORTS DESCRIBING OPERATION AND EFFECTIVENESS OF THESE POLICIES IN THEIR RESPECTIVE COUNTRIES.

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